



# City of Westminster

## NEWS AND NOTES

Volume Two, Issue 5a



### LETTER FROM THE MAYOR



Dear Residents:

I would like to introduce our newest service for residents—The City of Westminster: Arts, Entertainment and Activities Facebook page. This Facebook page will provide up to date information on all events taking place in the City, including those sponsored by the City of Westminster, Main Street Program, Carroll Arts Center, McDaniel College, Carroll County Tourism, Carroll County Historical Society and the Westminster branch of the Carroll County Public Library.

If you are looking for something to do this weekend, please find us on Facebook at City of Westminster: Arts, Entertainment and Activities. And, we ask that you encourage your friends and neighbors to “friend” us and participate in our activities.

While you are visiting the City, we would like to encourage you to visit these recent additions to our Cityscape:

- Bart Walter’s “Wild Imaginings” sculpture at the Westminster branch of the Carroll County Public Library completes the renovation of the external park space.
- The Community Building at City Park was completed and dedicated in 2010. Occupied by Fallfest staff and volunteers, this building will provide community meeting space and a refreshment stand for park participants. This was a Project Open Space project.
- Also at City Park is the tot lot donated by the Westminster Lion’s Club and dedicated this past spring.
- Project Open Space also funded a replacement of the Bishop’s Garth Park which was completed in September.
- The first four town homes in the Union Crossing development on Union Street were constructed and offered for sale. The Deputy Secretary of the Department of Housing and Community Development officiated at the ribbon cutting ceremony for this Community Development Block Grant project, along with the Pennsylvania Avenue Streetscape Project.

We have also welcomed two new partners to our community: Dr. Roger Casey is the new President of McDaniel College and five new Commissioners have been elected to the Carroll County Board of Commissioners. Dave Roush is the newly elected Third District Commissioner.

Dr. Casey has announced his goal of strengthening the partnership with the City and the first activity in achieving this goal was a Tour of Main Street businesses and shops on Homecoming weekend. Dr. Casey was accompanied by his five vice-presidents, several members of the Board of Trustees and the Mayor and Common Council.

We congratulate Commissioner Roush and look forward to working with him and the other new Commissioners as the Board begins the first term with five members.

The President and members of the Common Council join me and City staff in wishing you and yours a happy and healthy new year.

Sincerely,

Mayor

## Carroll Arts Center Events: January

**Saturday, January 15, 8pm:** Back by popular demand will be Maryland Ensemble Theatre's acclaimed "Comedy Pigs". The Comedy Pigs are the longest, continuously running improvisational comedy troupe in the state and are well known to local audiences. They have also been seen on the Comedy Central cable network channel, at national improv festivals, and by audiences in Washington and Baltimore. The "Comedy Pigs" are under the umbrella of the Maryland Ensemble Theatre, one of the region's most acclaimed professional theatre companies. Founder Tad Janes describes them as a cross between "Whose Line is it Anyway?" and "Saturday Night Live." With the Pig idea in his head, Janes scouted for a different location in which to bring this style of comedy. The Baltimore/DC area seemed quite ripe for such an event with the close proximity of Philadelphia, Richmond, and New York....and the rest is history. The Pigs have since become an integral part of the Maryland Ensemble Theatre's repertoire.

"It's really liberating to be able to lampoon society," comments Janes. The performance, which is suggested for mature audiences, is guaranteed to be full of side-splitting humor, raucous skits and timely parodies, some of which will be inspired by audience suggestions. Tickets are \$15 for Adults and \$12 for Arts Council Members, Seniors 60+ and Students 18 & under.

**Monday, January 17, 2pm:** "To Kill a Mockingbird" 1962, NR, 129 minutes. In honor of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, the Carroll County Arts Center will be helping to celebrate the award winning novel by Harper Lee, which celebrates its 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary this year. It is still a staple of many school literature lists because of its moving account of civil rights inequities in the south as seen through the eyes of a precocious young girl named Scout. It stars Gregory Peck as the town lawyer, Atticus Finch, who is a wise, quiet man with a great sense of justice for all. When he is chosen to defend a poor black man who is accused of rape, it sets the stage for what becomes an event that divides the community but also helps some take a small step towards tolerance and understanding.

(see next column)



(...continued)

"While the film takes place in the 1930's, before Dr. King's crusade for non-violence and civil equality, it carries an important message that should be the focus of our dinner table conversations on a day like this," reports Executive Director Sandy Oxx. We are proud to remain open on this legal holiday and present thought provoking cultural programming fitting for this day and hope that even those who has seen this film before will come to once again experience its powerful message."

Tickets are \$6 for adults and \$5 for CCAC Members, Seniors 60+ and Students & under.

## Carroll Arts Center Galleries

**December 9, 2010 to January 8, 2011:**

"Gallery of Gifts"

open from 10am to 4pm Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday, and 10am to 8pm on Thursday.



The Carroll Arts Center continues their annual tradition by transforming their Tevis Gallery into the "Gallery of Gifts" during the holiday shopping season. This special cash and carry exhibit will resemble an outdoor craft market rather than a traditional gallery exhibit, as artists display their festive wares in booth-style settings. The show will continue feature the same level of artistic quality that Arts Center visitors have come to expect. There will be a wide variety of hand-crafted creations from inexpensive stocking stuffers to truly elegant special gifts. Local artists combine with regional artists for a distinct flavor of fashion, fantasy and whimsy. To lessen the holiday stress, there will be complimentary gift wrapping for all purchases!

The shopping frenzy will begin at a meet the artists' reception on Thursday, December 9 from 5 to 7 pm. There will be complimentary wine, cheese, hot chocolate and holiday confections and Arts Council members will receive a 10% discount.

# Reminder

With the implementation of the new bulk trash system, a standard schedule will be followed WITHOUT THE NEED TO CALL FOR A PICKUP. All bulk waste will be collected from residences throughout the City on this every-other-week schedule. Residents are required to place bulk pickup items out by 7a.m. on the pickup day to ensure collection.

## Bulk Trash Schedule for 2011

<b>January</b> S M T WTh F S 1 2 3 4 Y 6 7 8 9 T M Y E W 15 16 17 18 Y 20 21 22 23 T M Y E W 29 30 31 Christmas trees will be picked up on Jan 3, 10, 24, & 31	<b>February</b> S M T WTh F S 1 Y 3 4 5 6 T M Y E W 12 13 14 15 Y 17 18 19 20 N M Y E W 26 27 28	<b>March</b> S M T WTh F S 1 Y 3 4 5 6 T M Y E W 12 13 14 15 Y 17 18 19 20 T M Y E W 26 27 28 29 Y 31
<b>April</b> S M T WTh F S 1 2 3 T M Y E W 9 10 11 12 Y 14 15 16 17 T M Y E N 23 24 25 26 Y 28 29 30	<b>May</b> S M T WTh F S 1 T M Y E W 7 8 9 10 Y 12 13 14 15 T M Y E W 21 22 23 24 Y 26 27 28 29 N M	<b>June</b> S M T WTh F S Y E W 4 5 6 7 Y 9 10 11 12 T M Y E W 18 19 20 21 Y 23 24 25 26 T M Y E
<b>July</b> S M T WTh F S W 2 3 4 5 Y 7 8 9 10 T M Y E W 16 17 18 19 Y 21 22 23 24 T M Y E W 30 31	<b>August</b> S M T WTh F S 1 2 Y 4 5 6 7 T M Y E W 13 14 15 16 Y 18 19 20 21 T M Y E W 27 28 29 30 Y	<b>September</b> S M T WTh F S 1 2 3 4 N M Y E W 10 11 12 13 Y 15 16 17 18 T M Y E W 24 25 26 27 Y 29 30
<b>October</b> S M T WTh F S 1 2 T M Y E W 8 9 10 11 Y 13 14 15 16 T M Y E W 22 23 24 25 Y 27 28 29 30 T	<b>November</b> S M T WTh F S M Y E W 5 6 7 8 Y 10 11 12 13 T M Y E W 19 20 21 22 Y 24 25 26 27 T M Y	<b>December</b> S M T WTh F S E W 3 4 5 6 Y 8 9 10 11 T M Y E W 17 18 19 20 Y 22 23 24 25 N M Y E N 31

### Pickup Schedule Key

<b>T</b>	Tree limbs/Brush
<b>M</b>	Metal, Tires, Batteries, Large Appliances
<b>Y</b>	Yard waste
<b>E</b>	Bulk Trash East of MD Rt31
<b>W</b>	Bulk Trash West of MD Rt31
<b>N</b>	NO PICKUP, City offices closed for Holiday

\*NOTE: If the scheduled pickup day falls on a City holiday, bulk trash items will be collected on the next scheduled date.



## Remember to Clear Snow and Ice from Sidewalks

# From the Code Enforcement Office

## As a Reminder to Westminster Citizens within City limits:

Please remember to have your sidewalks cleared within 24 hrs of a snow or ice event. Failure to do so not only could result in liability on the property owner's behalf, but also a \$200 fine issued by Code Inspector.

***Stay safe during this winter season!***



## Be a Good Neighbor This Winter

After snow and ice stop falling, it's time to clear the white stuff away. Some citizens may have difficulty achieving this task due to age, disability, or other reasons. If you see that a neighbor might need help this winter clearing snow or ice from their sidewalk, driveway, car, or porch, be a good neighbor and lend a hand.

Also, if you see a fire hydrant or storm drain that is covered in snow, please take time to help emergency responders and Public Works employees by clearing these areas for quick and easy access should an emergency arise and to help avoid melting snow from flooding streets.

Avoid driving and traveling during wintry conditions. If you find that you must leave your home, leave with extra time and drive slowly and carefully. Try not to become upset at another driver going under the speed limit; remember—they are being safe!

Always exercise extreme caution during hazardous conditions and stay safe this winter season.

## Christmas Tree Collection



By expanding our tree limb collection service to include Christmas trees during the month of January, the City has enough material to create mulch for City properties, with

some to spare.

Our Public Works Department estimates that they can produce 200 tons of mulch from the Christmas trees and other tree limbs "donated" each year. Nationally, "Treecycling" programs are sprouting up in communities everywhere. Trees that were once destined for the landfill (at a cost of \$60/ton) are now taken to a central location and fed through machinery to make mulch. In Westminster, the Public Works department uses the mulch to maintain landscaping in our public spaces.

For something so simple, mulch adds tremendous value to your landscape. It insulates the soil and plant roots from temperature extremes, protects soils from compaction, allows water to infiltrate the ground slowly, and decomposes to add vital nutrients and porosity to the soil. Besides that, it looks a lot better than bare dirt!

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Christmas trees will be collected curbside for recycling on the following dates in January:

**ONLY THESE MONDAYS: 3, 10, 24, 31**  
The City will be closed on January 17th.

Beginning February 1st, Christmas trees will be collected every other Monday following the tree limb/brush bulk trash pickup schedule (more details on previous page).

Christmas trees may also be dropped off at the Westminster Skate Park behind City Hall on Longwell Avenue until March 1st.

Should you need more information, or if you have any questions, please call the Information Desk at 410-848-9000.